

CLAIMS

1. Cathodic protection device for a subsea flexible pipe (1) for transporting fluid, the flexible pipe comprising a plastic sealing sheath (2) and an inner plastic sheath (8) which define an annular space in which structural elements are placed, the said structural elements comprising at least one armour ply (3) consisting of metal wires (41) wound helically with a long pitch, a end fitting (12, 13) being fitted at each end of the said flexible pipe (1), the device (14) comprising at least one external anode (17) electrically connected by connection means to the said armour ply, characterized in that the anode (17) is placed in an intermediate region (40) of the flexible pipe (1) distal from the said end fittings, the connection means (23, 25) connecting the anode to at least one of the metal wires in the said intermediate region.
2. Cathodic protection device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the armour ply (4) connected to the anode is adjacent to the outer plastic sealing sheath (2).
3. Device according to Claim 1, in which the flexible pipe comprises several armour plies (4, 5) and characterized in that the anode is electrically connected to at least one single metal wire (41) of each armour ply (4, 5).
4. Device according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the connection means (23, 25) consist of at least one penetrating metal shank

5 11. Device according to Claim 10, characterized in that the penetrating connection means provide contact with each armour ply of the flexible pipe through which they pass.

10 12. Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that
an anode (17), which is fastened to a first
support clamp (29), is fitted in the intermediate
region (40), the connection between the anode (17)
and at least one metal wire (41) being made
15 through a second connection clamp (31) located
near the first clamp (29).